PATENT
Attorney Docket No: 01017/36917A

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: S. Jing.	For: IL-17 Receptor Like Molecules and Uses Thereof
Serial No.: 09/810,927	
Filed: March 16, 2001	Group Art Unit: 1646
	Examiner: J. Anders

Considered
07/17/03

DECLARATION OF SHUQIAN JING, Ph.D., PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.132

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

I, Shuqian Jing , Ph.D., hereby declare that:

1. I received a doctoral degree in Molecular Biology from the University of California at San Diego and received post-doctoral training at Bristol-Myers Squibb Pharmaceutical Research Institute in the Department of Molecular Biology. I am currently a Research Scientist in the Department of Clinical Immunology at AMGEN Inc. in Thousand Oaks, CA 91320-1799.

2. I participated in the preparation of the above-identified U.S. application and I am familiar with the claims as they will appear following entry of the Amendment and Request for Reconsideration to which this declaration is attached as Appendix A.

3. In experiments I supervised at AMGEN Inc. and disclosed in the above-captioned U.S. application, IL-17B was shown to effectively bind to the IL-17 receptor like polypeptide (IL-17RB) of the claimed invention. Northern blot analysis described in Example 14 of the specification demonstrated that IL-17RB transcript was expressed in B-lymphoblast cell lines GM3104 and CCRF SB2, lymphoma cell line CESS, megakaryocyte cell line DAMI and human monocyte cell line THP-1. These cells ($1x10^6$ cells per tube) were exposed to 5% FBS (fetal bovine serum) in PBS (phosphate buffed saline) on ice for 30 minutes to block or prevent non-specific binding to the fusion proteins and antibodies described herein. Subsequently these cells were washed with 0.5% BSA/PBS once. One ml

of 1x IL-17B-Fc-conditioned medium or a 1:1 combined IL-17B-Fc- and IL-17RB-Fc-conditioned medium was added to each tube and incubated at 4°C for 2 hours. Cells were washed with 1 ml of 0.5% BSA/PBS twice and then incubated with 2 μg of goat anti-human IgG-Fc-FITC (Chemicon) on ice for 1 hour (light-protected). Cells were washed 3 times with 1 ml of 0.5% BSA/PBS each time. Samples were analyzed by using FACScan (Beckton Dickinson). IL-17B bound effectively to IL-17RB expressing cells GM3104A, CCRF SB, DAMI, and THP-1 cells.

4. The binding of IL-17B to the cells identified in paragraph 3 was blocked by a IL-17RB-Fc fusion protein (described in Example 7 of the above-captioned U.S. application at pages 152-153), indicating a specific binding of IL-17B to the IL-17B receptor.

5. Throughout the specification, I assert that the polypeptides of SEQ ID NO: 2, SEQ ID NO: 5 and SEQ ID NO: 7 are IL-17 receptor like polypeptides which bind IL-17 molecules. The cell binding experiments described in paragraphs 3 and 4, in addition to the experiments described in Example 8 of the specification (pages 154-155), demonstrate that these polypeptides bind multiple members of the IL-17 molecule family.

6. I declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the above-identified U.S. application or any patent issuing thereon.

Date: 4/30/2003

Shuqian Jing, Ph.D.